

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. The pending claims are subject to the Restriction/Election Requirements imposed in the Office Action mailed June 28, 2006.

**Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 and Election of Species**

*i) Election*

The Office Action has required restriction to one of the following groups: Group I (claims 1-13), Group II (claims 14-17), and Group III (claim 18-20). This restriction requirement acknowledges that the subject matter of Groups I, II, and III constitute separately patentable inventions. MPEP § 806.04(h).

In response, Applicants elect the invention of Group I.

Applicants hereby elect the following species for examination:

The thermosetting adhesive composition described in Example 2, comprising 55% by weight of a polymeric quaternary amine cure accelerant, relative to the combined weight of accelerant and protein-based component. See page 18, Table 1, 1<sup>st</sup> entry. As described in Example 2, the accelerant is a cationic polyazetidinium resin, in the form of an aqueous suspension in water at 25% solids content. The protein-based component is modified soy flour, added as an aqueous suspension having a protein-based component content of 20% by weight.

It is believed that claims 1-9 and 11-13 of Group I read on this elected species.

*ii) Rejoinder of Claims 14-20 (M.P.E.P. § 821.04)*

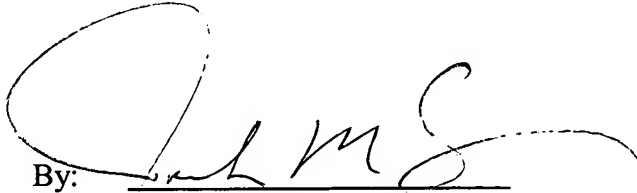
Claims 14-20, by virtue of their dependency on the elected claims, are of the same scope and therefore comply with the requirements under M.P.E.P. § 821.04(a) and (b) for rejoinder. Upon a finding that the elected claims 1-13 of Group I are allowable, the non-elected claims must be rejoined. See M.P.E.P. § 821.04(a) and (b).

Applicants therefore respectfully request, upon a finding that the elected claims 1-13 of Group I are allowable, (1) withdrawal of requirement for restriction between Groups I, II, and III, and (2) rejoinder of non-elected claims 14-20.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 28, 2006

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JMS', written over a horizontal line.

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